

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10, 12-19, 21 and 23-27 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 7 and 17 are amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Sorrell during the telephone interviews held October 8, 9 and 12, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interviews as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants record of the interviews.

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Kumpf (U.S. Patent No. 6,581,098); claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kumpf in view of Beach et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,404,772); claims 3, 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kumpf in view of Leiman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,469,796); claims 7-8, 10, 12-13, 17-19, 21 and 23-24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Levine et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,020,973) in view of Beach and Kawai et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,513,073); claims 16 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Levine in view of Beach and further in view of Leiman; claims 14 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Levine in view of Beach and further in view of Kurachi (U.S. Patent No. 6,181,436); and claims 15 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Levine in view of Beach and further in view of Mori (U.S. Patent No. 6,089,765). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

During the numerous telephone conferences, the Examiner agreed that none of the applied references disclose or suggest an image input and output control apparatus that includes at least a user interface providing section that provides user interfaces to a user interface section, as recited in independent claim 1. As such, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1, and its dependent claims, under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

Beach teaches a wireless local area network that carries a mixed traffic of voice and data communications (Abstract).

Leiman teaches a method for open systems printing including routing printing jobs automatically from different types of source computers to different types of printers (Abstract).

Kawai teaches a data output apparatus that includes a storage device, a first receiving device, and storing the received parameters set into the first storage area (Abstract).

Kurachi teaches a print managing system with client apparatuses for generating print data and sending the generated print data to a printing apparatus (Abstract).

Mori teaches a printing system in which print data created by an application program and transferred to a printer is stored and managed in a print storage data device (Abstract).

The Office Action acknowledges that the combination of Levine and Beach fails to teach that the printing conditions include at least one of resolution, density, color, sheet size, number of prints and file name (Office Action, page 10, lines 4-6).

The Examiner also agreed that none of the applied references disclose or suggest an image input and output control apparatus that includes at least a Web server that provides the information terminal apparatus with a user interface for setting the printing conditions, wherein the printing conditions include at least one of resolution, density and color, as recited in independent claims 7 and 17.

As such, none of the applied references, either alone or in combination, cure deficiencies in Levine and Beach in disclosing or rendering obvious the features of claims 7-8, 10, 12-13, 17-19, 21 and 23-24, including the limitations of independent claims 7 and 17. Accordingly, it would not have been obvious to combine the applied references to arrive at the claimed invention. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-8, 10, 12-19, 21 and 23-27 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Tarik M. Nabi
Registration No. 55,478

JAO:TMN/tje

Date: October 14, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

| |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|